

Applicants: Ann Marie Schmidt and David Stern
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this Amendment is being timely filed.

In the claims:

Please cancel claims ~~48-49~~ and ~~51-52~~ without prejudice or disclaimer to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a later-filed application. Please amend claims 50 under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c) as follows. A marked up version of amended claim 50 wherein the deleted material is in brackets and the inserted material is underlined is attached hereto as Exhibit A:

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Sub C2

--50. (Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the compound is the ligand binding domain of sRAGE peptide or the ligand binding domain of EN-RAGE antibody or a fragment thereof.--

REMARKS

Claims 47-52, 55-68 and 70-72 were pending in the subject application. Applicants have hereinabove canceled claims 48-49 and 51-52 without prejudice or disclaimer to applicants right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a later-filed application and amended claim 50. Support for these amendments may be found inter alia in the specification as follows: Claim 50: page 10, lines 8-13. Claim 50 does not involve any issue of new matter. Therefore, entry of this amendment is respectfully requested such that claims 47, 50, 55-68 and 70-72 will be pending.